Internet Searching Skills

Internet

- Anyone can publish
- Anyone can amplify
- Anyone can edit
- Is constantly changing
- No quality controls
- No trashcan

Subject Directories

- Organized by subject or topic
- Great when you have a broad topic

Search Engines

- Search the web for a certain word or phrase
- Each search engine is slightly different

Google

- Used the most
- Effective
- Dependable
- Identifies paid sponsors' links
- Allows quotation marks
- Easy to use tabs
- Advance searching and spelling fixes
- Ability to restrict to specific sites & file types

Searching Strategies

- Become familiar with the topic
- Choose search terms
- Select subject directory or search engine
- Use advanced searching techniques
- Limit search by language, date etc.
- Try and guess possible web addresses

Boolean Operators

- *AND, OR* and *NOT*
- Should be in upper case
- Use the "( )" to list the order of operations

AND or "+"   Retrieve sites that have both search terms
         Example: *"global warming" AND "sea level rise"*

OR   Retrieve sites that contain one or both words
         Example: *"greenhouse effect" OR "global warming"*

NOT or "-"   Sites that may not contain the word you specified

7/16/2019

Internet Searching Skills

"NEAR"   Words within 10-25 of each other *sheep NEAR/10 dip*

"ADJ"   Words right next to each other but in any order

"FAR"   Words are more than 25 from each other

"**BEFORE**"   Work like AND but must be in the specified order

Ranking and Relevance

- Most relevant pages are listed first
- Number of times the terms appear
- Location of those words
- How many link to that site?

Evaluating Web Pages

- What does the web address tell you?
- Is it objective?
- Look at the web address carefully
- Look for author information and date
- Look for quality information
- What do others say about this site? (*link:URL in Google*)
- Does it all add up?

Why Evaluate?

- Cheap or free to put information on the net
- Need to tell the difference between good and bad source
- Need to evaluate the information you find

Fake News

- Fake news refers to false information or propaganda published under the guise of being authentic news
- There are two kinds of fake news: stories that aren't true and stories that have some truth but are not 100 percent accurate which are often used to get a political or ideological point of view across

Deep Web, a.k.a. "Invisible Web"

- There is an invisible web you cannot see
- Most of the deep web is made up of specialized databases
- Use databases and Scholar.google.com to find this information

Extras

- *books.google.com*
- *www.llbcl.ca*

7/16/2019